

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1, without prejudice. Kindly amend claims 2-5, 7 and 8 , as shown below. Please add new claim 9, as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:

forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first ~~spacer~~ spacers having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel due to a difference between said atmosphere pressure and a negative pressure inside said panel; and

hardening said seal member after an inner volume of said panel becomes equal to a volume of said liquid crystal, wherein said first spacer is elastically deformable at first from an

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
130 W. CUSHING ST.
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567

initial size thereof to a size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap prior to that a gap at said seal member is reached to said appropriate cell gap.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said seal member contains second spacers mixed therein, said second ~~spacer~~ spacers being formed of a material, which is hardly deformed when it is pinched between said transparent substrates under atmospheric pressure.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first ~~spacer is~~ spacers are deformed to the size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap.

Claim 5 (previously amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein a relative value of an initial average size of said first spacers to said appropriate cell gap is within a range from a value larger than 102.9% to a value smaller than 107.0%.

Claim 6 (original): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 5, wherein the relative value is $(105 \pm 2) \%$.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:

forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first ~~spacer~~ spacers having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

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dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel without hardening said seal member, wherein excessive deformation of said panel due to atmospheric pressure is prevented by compressive stress of spacers located at a central region of said panel; and

hardening said seal member after an inner volume of said panel becomes equal to a volume of said liquid crystal, wherein said first ~~spacer~~ spacers are elastically deformable at first from an initial size thereof to a size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap prior to that a gap at said seal member is reached to said appropriate cell gap, and said seal member contains second spacers mixed therein, said second ~~spacer~~ spacers being formed of a material, which is hardly deformed when it is pinched between said transparent substrates under atmospheric pressure.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:

forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first spacer having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel without hardening said seal member, wherein excessive deformation of said panel due to atmospheric pressure is prevented by compressive stress of spacers located at a central region of said panel; and

hardening said seal member after an inner volume of said panel becomes equal to a volume of said liquid crystal, wherein said first spacer is elastically deformable at first from an initial size thereof to a size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap prior to that a gap at said seal member is reached to said appropriate cell gap, and said first spacer is deformed to the size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap.

Claim 9 (new): A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:

forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first spacer having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

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forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber without hardening said seal member;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers together with said liquid crystal through a deformation of said panel such that said deformation of said panel proceeds in a center portion of said panel at higher speed than that in a peripheral portion thereof due to a difference between atmospheric pressure and a negative pressure inside said panel, wherein said first spacers located at a central portion of said panel is deformed firstly together with said liquid crystal to provide an appropriate cell gap prior to that a gap at said seal member is reached to said appropriate cell gap; and

hardening said seal member after an inner volume of said panel becomes equal to a volume of said liquid crystal.

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